



US0058421

United States Patent [19]**Giovannoli**[11] **Patent Number:** **5,842,178**[45] **Date of Patent:** **Nov. 24, 1998**[54] **COMPUTERIZED QUOTATION SYSTEM
AND METHOD**[76] **Inventor:** **Joseph Giovannoli, 30 Bayberry Dr.,
Saddle River, N.J. 07485**[21] **Appl. No.:** **15,705**[22] **Filed:** **Jan. 30, 1998****Related U.S. Application Data**[63] **Continuation of Ser. No. 603,906, Feb. 22, 1996, Pat. No.
5,758,328.**[51] **Int. Cl.⁶** **G06F 17/60**[52] **U.S. Cl.** **705/26; 705/37**[58] **Field of Search** **705/26, 37**[56] **References Cited****U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**4,799,156 1/1989 Shavit et al. 705/26
4,992,940 2/1991 Dworkin 705/26*Primary Examiner*—Edward R. Cosimano*Assistant Examiner*—Phillip Groult*Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Kaplan & Gilman, I.L.P.[57] **ABSTRACT**

A computerized system for forming a computer based communications network of network members inclusive of network buyers and or network vendors for processing requests for quotation for goods and services through at least one central processing unit including operating system software for controlling the central processing unit, storage means containing the identification of network members, means for network buyers to generate request for quotation for goods and/or services, means for transmitting said request for quotation to said central processing unit, filter means for selecting appropriate network members to receive said request for quotation based on filter conditions defined by the buyer in said request for quotation and/or by the vendor and/or by the central processing unit, means for broadcasting said request for quotation to the network members selected by said filter means and means for responding to the generator of said request for quotation with either a response to said request for quotation or with a list of said selected network members. Filter conditions may define the class of vendors in terms of geographical location, quantity, language spoken, currency, special conditions of sale, and the like.

2 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets